# 2013 ELEMENT SUMMARY

elementchurch

## From Pastor Erik and Christy Lawson



The world around us is very good about celebrating its successes - but we believe that God's people are the ones who really have a reason to celebrate. It is important for us to remember to pause and thank God for the work He's done, in our lives as individuals, and through the body of Element Church. That's what this "2013 Element Summary" is all about. It's an opportunity for us as a church family to pause and reflect on God's faithfulness.

Our vision at Element Church is Reaching People, Building Lives. In the last 12 months alone, 5,515 people have accepted Jesus as their Savior. That is

something to celebrate! We are so thankful to see that people are growing in their walk with Christ.

It is our hope that this summary will be not only informational, but will be an encouragement to you of God's favor and blessing on and through Element Church. There are a lot of numbers on these pages, and we rejoice in knowing that every number has a name, every name has a story and every single story matters to God. This should help you understand why this church and God's Kingdom is truly a worthwhile investment. We serve a great God!

We pray that as you are encouraged by this summary, that you will be challenged to commit to finding your place and fulfilling your purpose in the local church. The church is not a building. The church is YOU, and the best is yet to come!

## **OUR VISION**

## Want To Experience God? Weekendservices

The weekend services at Element are designed with the guest in mind. We strive to create a welcoming atmosphere where people are treated as family from the moment they set foot on the campus. We offer dynamic programming for kids and students where they can learn about God and experience church on their level! For the adults, our weekend services contain authentic worship, a relevant message and creative elements that will inspire you in your everyday life.

## Want Community? (\* smallgroups

Small Groups exist to bring the people of Element Church into life-changing relationships that encourage spiritual growth, provide Godly fellowship and accountability, and encourage, equip and empower them to use their gifts and passions to create disciples for Jesus Christ.

## Want The Next Step? (=) growthtrack

Growth Track is a catalyst to help individuals become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. The Track offers the tools necessary to make this a reality in their lives. From the initial decision to accept Jesus as your Lord to the final destination in life-changing ministry, Growth Track will lead people step-by-step from healing to growth and ultimately to the opportunity of fulfilling a leadership role within Team Element.

## Want To Make A Difference? (4) teamelement

Team Element is a group of incredible people who have discovered their gifts and passions and are actively using them. Whether they are creating a welcoming environment on the Guest Services Team, leading the next generation by serving on the eKidz or Student Ministries Teams, crafting a dynamic experience with the Creative Team, or serving across our city by leading a Small Group, the members of Team Element are forcefully advancing the Kingdom of God.

## Want To Reach Out? 🌎 elementoutreach

Element Outreach is developed to be a transformative tool used for the benefit of individuals across our community, throughout the Greater St. Louis region, and around the world. We believe that a relationship with God is the greatest opportunity ever extended to a person. Through various efforts (Single Mother's initiative, Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace and our holiday outreaches) we continue to reach individuals at their point of need and help build their lives in Christ. This experience as Christ followers enables all to be liberated and hope filled.

## **OUR GROWTH**













→ Discover

This class introduces you to the heart and vision of Pastor Erik and Element Church membership. Discover takes place the first Sunday of the month.

2 Essentials

This class guides you through the essential beliefs every Christian needs to find success in their walk with Christ. This class takes place on the second Sunday of every month.

Purpose

We want to help you realize what makes you so unique. This class will help you discover how your personality and gifts in life can combine for the best fit to fulfill your God-given purpose.

# TOTAL GROWTH TRACK ATTENDANCE 116% INCREASE IN PARTICIPATION FROM 2012

"My mother-in-law invited us to her church to witness her water baptism. I had wanted to find a church to attend to provide my girls with a good moral background like I had. I was so worried that growing up without their father was going to ruin them. At my second visit to Element Church the Lord spoke to me and I gave my life to Him! Going to church every week was a pleasure and I couldn't wait to hear what wonderful message Pastor Erik had for me. I bought a study Bible and began to read the Word on a mostly daily basis. I attended all of the Growth Track classes, and was baptized along with my two beautiful daughters. I even got my mother to attend and enjoy watching her on the same path!"

## **TOTAL NUMBER** OF GROUPS



## **small**groups



17% INCREASE **OVER 2012** 

366 ATTENDEES IN SMALL GROUPS

LEADERS IN SMALL GROUPS

525 NUMBER OF TIMES GROUPS MET





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29,952 HOURS VOLUNTEERED

225 INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS

23% INCREASE OVER 2012



#### Loren & Anita Misselhorn

"Loren and I started going to Element in January and decided at the second service we attended that we were 'all in.' We have placed God first in every single aspect of our lives, and boy, have our lives changed. Loren and I both grew up in the church but

never truly knew what it meant to walk with God.

We will never go back! I could share SO many stories of miracles that we have encountered over the past 9 months! We prayed about simply joining a small group and the Lord said no, you are going to lead a small group! He pushed us way out of our normal comfort zone, yet gave us such peace and excitement about it."



#### Aaron & Danielle Clarke

"Before serving at Element we felt as if we were just another face in the crowd. Although services were great we felt there had to be something more. When we began serving, we started to find our purpose.

We became blessed with friends, mentors, and opportunity. Most importantly God began to speak to us about his vision for our lives. After stepping out and serving we feel as though we are part of a family and not just attending a church."

# MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS

### **LOCAL MINISTRIES**

#### **First Step Back Home**

www.firststepbackhome.net

First Step Back Home is a ministry in St. Charles County that specializes in helping the homeless by providing the basic necessities of life, crisis intervention, and counseling to help people get back on their feet and become self-supporting members of society.

#### **International Crisis Aid**

www.crisisaid.org

International Crisis Aid's mission is to bring the encouragement of the Gospel and emergency relief in the form of food, shelter, supplies, and medicine to people locally and around the world who are in times of crisis, especially life-threatening circumstances.

#### **Fellowship of Christian Athletes**

www.fca.org

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes challenges coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ.

#### **Church of the King Building Fund**

www.churchoftheking.com

Pastor Steve Robinson of Church of the King serves as a spiritual mentor to Pastor Erik and Element Church. Church of the King has recently exploded with growth and built a larger facility to reach its more than 5,000 people. Element Church sows into the great work God is doing at COTK.

#### The Abundance of Grace

(empowered grace radio)

Empowered Grace is a ministry which bridges the gap by extending a hand of help to needy, disenfranchised, hurting people and speaks destiny and life purpose to those around the metro area.

#### **OVERSEAS MISSIONS**

#### **Gateway Church (Israel)**

www.global.gatewaypeople.com/bless-israel

Gateway Jewish Ministries exists to proclaim the Gospel to the Jewish people and connect Christians to Israel. Following Romans 1:16, they support Israel through training leaders, emergency relief, and caring for the Jewish people.

#### JH Ranch Israel

www.jhranch.com

JH Ranch Israel works in conjunction with the Israeli Ministry of Education to develop the Ariel National Leadership Development Center. The ANLDC combines outdoor learning with a strategic Biblical curriculum, providing a one-of-a-kind experience for quests who visit the site.

#### **Guts Church (Haiti)**

www.gutschurch.com/outreach/haiti

GUTS Church continues to feed rice and beans daily to more than 500 orphaned children and victims of starvation in the poorest areas of the nation of Haiti.

# WE FINANCIALLY SUPPORT

#### **Hand of Hope**

www.joycemeyer.org/HandOfHope

Hand of Hope is the mission arm of Joyce Meyer Ministries. Their goal is to help as many hurting people as they possibly can, to alleviate human suffering and to help Christians grow in their faith. Through vital outreaches, practical humanitarian aid and media broadcasting worldwide, they are sharing the love of Christ to millions around the world.

#### **A21 Campaign: Nick & Christine Caine**

www.thea21campaign.org

A21 Ministry protects victims of human trafficking by building shelters and transitional homes around the world. Their facilities are safe places for survivors to move from human slavery into physical, emotional, and spiritual freedom.

#### **Missionaries - Pat & Windy Caspary**

www.missionswithcare.blogspot.com

Care Ministries International partners with Pat and Windy Caspary who serve in China, Thailand and Burma. Their ministry helps provide for the pastors they raise up as well as ministering to the villages and inner-city. They also support orphanages, prison ministries, bible schools and churches in all three countries.

### **CHURCH PLANTING**

#### **GCN – Growing Churches Network**

www.lifechurch.tv

Growing Church Network is a corporation based out of Life Church in Oklahoma pastored by Craig Groeschel. GCN plants churches across America in areas needing spiritual growth and development.

#### **ARC - Assocation of Related Churches**

www.arcchurches.com

The Association of Related Churches has a goal to plant more than 100 churches per year across the country and around the world. ARC churches number more than 400 presently, and their focus is to become 2,000 strong to impact the world for Christ.

#### **RLCI – Resurrection Life Church**

www.rlci.org

RLCI is an association of life-giving ministries aiming to advance God's Kingdom. They passionately believe the local church is the key to spreading the Gospel and are committed to equipping and mentoring leaders in order to build churches worldwide.

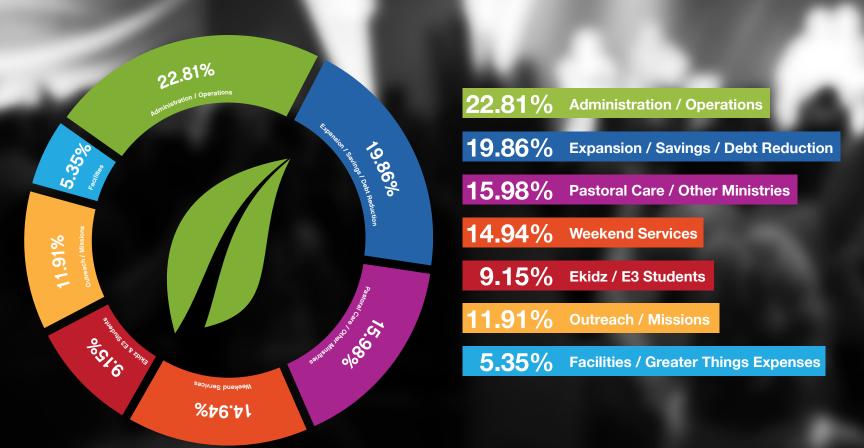
#### **Element's Church Plant Account**

(helping plant churches accross the country)

Element Church has partnered with many new church plants across the country over the last year. Element has directly helped to fund the launch of two new churches in the last few months of 2013: Vintage Church in the Fort Hood region of Texas and Thrive Chapel which will launch in the Atlanta region in 2014.

## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Element Church Income Allocation - 1/1/13 through 10/31/13



## **GROWTH STRATEGIES FOR 2014**



#### **New Ministry Goals**

In keeping with our goal of "Reaching People, Building Lives" we are actively planning new ministries to meet needs within our community. As we seek to expand our outreach programs additional funds will be needed (or use necessary) to accomplish the vision God has for our church.



#### **Adding 4th Service**

As Element Church continues to experience rapid growth, we will launch a 4th weekend service in early 2014. This added service will allow us to reach more people by adding ministry space and availability for families to attend.



#### **Building Fund**

Purchasing all or part of our ministry space will ensure our ability to serve and reach our community long-term.



#### Missions & Outreach

Element Church believes that we have to go beyond the four walls of our church building to reach people in our local community, to show them the love of Christ, and that there is a God that cares and has a purpose for people's lives.



#### **Enrichment Center**

The Mission of the Element Enrichment Center is to provide an environment that will strengthen community while nurturing relationships through educational, social, spiritual and health and wellness opportunities that are inclusive to all people. This non-profit 501(c)(3) center will focus on giving people the opportunity to mature, learn, and grow in an environment that will support their passions, interests, dreams, and goals.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Assess established community services
- Establish strategic partnerships

- · Evaluate needs of current affinity groups
- · Set basis for funding resources

